

REMARKS

At the outset, the courtesies extended by the Examiner in granting the 5 February 2004 interview, and the professionalism he demonstrated during that interview, are appreciatively noted. During the interview, the references cited by the Examiner were discussed in light of clarifying amendments proposed to the Claims by the undersigned Attorney.

Responsive to the 24 October 2003 Office Action, Claims 1-5, 7, 10, 12, 14-18, 21, and 23-32 are hereby amended in accordance with the discussions had at the interview for further prosecution with the other pending Claims. It is believed that with such amendment of Claims, there is a further clarification of their recitations for this Patent Application.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner first rejected Claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. More specifically, the Examiner found objectionable the terminology “common-protocol wireless network.” Accordingly, the terminology has now been removed from the affected Claims.

Also in the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Flohr reference in view of the Narayanaswami and Delph references. In setting forth this rejection, the Examiner

acknowledged that Flohr does not specifically disclose a projection system, but nonetheless reasoned that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Flohr's video conferencing system to include such feature. The Examiner relied upon Narayanaswami for disclosing the use in a video conferencing system of a PDA capable of transmitting/receiving data either wirelessly or through a wired high speed means to a computer. The Examiner cited Delph simply for disclosing a network which makes use of a common protocol.

The Examiner additionally rejected Claims 30-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Flohr, Narayanaswami, and Delph references, further in view of the FCC 96-193 reference. In setting forth this rejection, the Examiner acknowledged that Flohr, Narayanaswami, and Delph all fail to disclose a common-protocol network system that operates at frequencies of approximately 5 GHz. The Examiner cited the FCC 96-193 reference for disclosing an available bandwidth at such frequencies and concluded from this that it would have been obvious to have operated the video conferencing network collectively disclosed by the other references at the 5 GHz frequency band.

As Applicant's newly-amended independent Claims 1, 10, and 14 each now more clearly recite, Applicant's system/method is one which includes among its features a projection system "for displaying" a "shared image," with such display

of “the shared image [being] responsive to … graphical data” transferred thereto by at least one of “first and second data appliances.” As each independent Claim also now more clearly recites, each data appliance is operable to display “at least a portion of the shared image” thereat. During operation, “each of the first and second data appliances provides a capability to modify the shared image,” as each newly-amended independent Claim also clarifies.

The full combination of these and other features now more clearly recited by Applicant’s pending Claims is nowhere disclosed by the cited references. Note, for instance, that the primarily-cited Flohr reference is directed to nothing more than a straight videoconferencing system. As capable as the reference describes it to be, the disclosed system ultimately provides means for users at remotely disposed workstations just to exchange data messages with one another while viewing one another’s television images. The reference focuses on facilitating this exchange by providing separately dedicated signaling (A-LAN) and broadband (B-LAN) network links for the respective transmission of such data messages and television signals. Nowhere does the reference disclose or even suggest the display of any “shared image responsive to … graphical data” transmitted to a projection system by at least one of “first and second data appliances,” much less the provision of such first and second data appliances each having the “capability to modify the shared image,” as Applicant’s newly-amended independent Claims 1, 10, and 14 now more clearly recite.

The secondarily-cited Narayanaswami reference simply discloses a highly capable docking station for a PDA. The docking station provides numerous capabilities which facilitate the transfer of data from the PDA (or the docking station's integrated camera) to the given PC 136. While this facilitates the quick and efficient transfer of video and other information from the PDA (or integrated camera) directly to the PC 136, it neither discloses nor suggests the generation of any "shared image," or the use of any first and second data appliances having the "capability to modify ... [such] shared image," as Claims 1, 10, and 14 recite.

The remaining Delph and FCC references are found to be ineffectual to the present patentability analysis, in light of Applicant's independent Claims as now clarified by amendment. The Delph reference was merely cited by the Examiner for disclosing the use of a common protocol network, and the FCC reference was merely cited for disclosing the use of certain specific frequency bands.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the cited Flohr, Narayanaswami, Delph and FCC references, even when considered together, fail to disclose the unique combinations of elements now more clearly recited by Applicant's pending Claims for the purposes and objectives disclosed in the subject Patent Application.

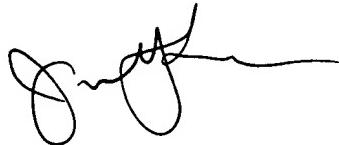
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It is believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed fully in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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